

I was in broadcasting for over 20 years as a engineer and Chief Engineer of several radio stations here in Minneapolis. I have been 'out' of broadcasting for some 10 years now and have witnessed, from afar, the total consolidation of the Broadcast Industry into several Corporations that control the 'Air Waves' here. This has reduced the radio market to trash as far as I am concerned. Commercial after commercial, little or no 'Local' content, Just a very stagnated medium. I am enjoying listening to the XM service, and it truley is a Service in my eyes. We have it in all three of our vehicles and is the ONLY thing we rely on for National News, and Weather. And the NON Commercial music channels give us the varity that we miss from local stations without the 20-30 minutes of commercials some broadcast stations air.

I feel the NAB's petition, 04-160, is a last gasp effort by the broadcasters to save their cash cow members who have made BILLIONS by providing little if any service to the public, play the same old songs over and over, and can't compete with a superior service both in quantity and quality.

As far as I am concerned, what we knew as Radio in the old days, is DEAD. Please send the NAB packing, and reject 04-160's approval.